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BALLABROOIE,
HIGH GROUND,
BANGALORE

4th August 1918.

My dear Mirza,

I have already acknowledged your letters of the 17th and 23rd July respectively. I have read both with much interest. I have also received Mr. Reddy's letter sent with one of them.

As regards Mr. Montagu's Report, we have not yet received a request from the Government of India to give our opinion. All the same, perhaps if His Highness approves after his return, we might communicate our views once more.

As regards the silk industry and sugarcane cultivation, I will have notes ready as desired against His Highness' arrival. We are trying to improve the silk industry although we have not made it a State monopoly as in Kashmir or as we have made sandalwood here. The silk filature will have to be established the moment the necessary machinery becomes available. Proposals for getting a silk expert from Japan have been sent up. I am sorry our jail carpet industry has decayed but we are developing the rug industry. I understand we are supplying about 2,000 rugs every month to the Munitions Board.

I am so pleased you are likely to bring with you drawings of the Kashmir house boats. They will be so useful for the Krishnaraja Sagara lake.

The narrative of His Highness' tour will, if published, be much appreciated in the State.

Every thing is going on smoothly here except in respect of rain which has not begun yet. As I said in my last letter, - - this need not cause any anxiety to His Highness because whatever is possible is being done and, because also, there is no likelihood of distress in any quarter of the State for three or four - months more.

I was so glad to learn that steps were taken to enable - H.H. the Maharani to contribute Rs.10,000 to the Royal Silver Wedding gift.

I am delighted to learn also that His Highness is gaining in health and good spirits and is keenly interesting himself in - whatever he sees.

I am sure, as a result of this tour, His Highness and - his two Secretaries will bring with them many new ideas and suggestions which will make us all sit up.

I have no doubt both yourself and Mr. Campbell will also greatly benefit by the tour.

Yours very sincerely
M. Visvesvaraya